Gosadans for stray cattle

46. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Animal Husbandry is performing its duties of establishing "Gosadans", where stray cattle could be kept and properly looked after;

(b) if so, the reasons why so many stray cattle are seen in the streets and who, often eat garbage and plastic bags which affects their health and causes extreme trauma; and

(c) what is the long-term strategy of the Department in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The Department of Animal Husbandry.is not implementing any scheme for establishing Gosadans where stray cattle could be kept and looked after. However, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding under which assistance is given to Goshalas for breeding purposes.

(b) In view of (a), question does not arise.

(c) Proper upkeep of stray cattle is under the jurisdiction of Animal Welfare Division under Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Direct subsidy to farmers

47. SHRIT.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Ministerof CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether is it proposed to provide direct subsidy on fertilizers to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any objection to it; and

(d) if so, how it is proposed to overcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) A Group of Ministers has been formed to look into sustainable use of fertilizers and pertinent subsidy and pricing issues. The GoM is looking into various issues pertaining to fertilizer sector including the issue of direct subsidy on fertilizers to farmers. The recommendations of GoM are not yet finalised.

Production of aatirabies vaccines

48. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NGOs under the garb of religion are opposing effective measures to eliminate the menace of dog and monkey bites, but tacitly are colliding with drug manufacturing units so that production of antirabies vaccines is not adversely affected; and

(b) what is the production growth of antirabies manufacturing units, product-wise and money-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) No such issue has come to the notice of this Department, Department of Biotechnology and the Office of the Drug Controller General (India) about such a move by NGOs or vaccine manufacturers.

(b) Antirabies vaccine is being manufactured in India by the following manufacturers:

(i) M/s. Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor.

(ii) M/s. Bharat Biotech Ltd., Hyderabad.

(iii) M/s. Serum Institute of India Ltd., Pune.

(iv) Indian Immunological, Hyderabad.

(v) M/s. Cadila Healthcare, Ahmedabad.

(vi) M/s. Chiron, Ankleshwar, Gujarat.

The volume of production of antirabies vaccine is not monitored by this Department and the Office of Drug Controller General (India).

Recommendation of the Satwant Reddy Committee

49. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a report of the Satwant Reddy Committee, which was released on May, 31, Pharma and agro-chemical companies could be granted data exclusivity for their patented products;

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether it has already submitted its report; and

(d) if so, what are the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMK:ALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) As suggested by Department of Commerce, an Inter-Ministerial Consultative Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals was constituted by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals on 19.2.2004 to look into the steps to be taken by the Government in the context of the provisions of Article 39.3 of the TRIPS Agreement for the protection of undisclosed information in respect of agrochemicals and pharmaceuticals. The Report has since been submitted to the Department of Commerce on 31.5.2007 and the same is also available on the Website of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals *www.chemicals.gov.in*.

(d) Department of Commerce had taken an Inter-Ministerial meeting on 6.8.2007 wherein it was decided that the concerned administrative ministries i.e. the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of AYUSH and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation would take further necessary action to implement the Report. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation may proceed with drafting the necessary amendments to the Insecticides Act, 1968 and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare would publicize the report and carry out consultations with stakeholders before proposing appropriate amendments to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and its Rules.